WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for preventing the incidence of atrial fibrillation (AF) in a subject with chronic heart failure comprising the administration of a therapeutically effective amount of an ACE inhibitor.

2. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said chronic heart failure is a result of symptomatic or asymptomatic left ventricular systolic dysfunction.

3. A method as defined in claim 2, wherein said chronic heart failure is a result of symptomatic left ventricular systolic dysfunction.

4. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said ACE inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of: enalapril (Vasotec®), captopril (Capoten®), lisinopril (Prinivil®, Zestril®), quinapril (Accupril®), ramipril (Altace®), trandolapril (Mavick®), perindopril (Coversyl®), and fosinopril (Monopril®).

5. A method as defined in claim 4, wherein said ACE inhibitor enalapril is administered in an amount of about 5-20 mg/day, said ACE inhibitor captopril is administered in an amount of about 150 mg/day, said ACE inhibitor lisinopril is administered in an amount of about 20 mg/day, said ACE inhibitor quinapril is administered in an amount of about 40 mg/day, said ACE inhibitor ramipril is administered in an amount of about 10 mg/day, said ACE inhibitor trandolapril is administered in an amount of about 4 mg/day, said ACE inhibitor perindopril is administered in an amount of about 8 mg/day, and said ACE inhibitor fosinopril is administered in an amount of about 20 mg/day.

6. A method as defined in claim 5, wherein said ACE inhibitor is enalapril.

7. A method for preventing the incidence of atrial fibrillation in a subject with chronic heart failure comprising the administration of a therapeutically effective amount of angiotensin II receptor antagonist.

8. A method as defined in claim 7, wherein said chronic heart failure is a result of symptomatic or asymptomatic left ventricular systolic dysfunction.

9. A method as defined in claim 8, wherein said chronic heart failure is a result of symptomatic left ventricular systolic dysfunction.

10. A method as defined in claim 9, wherein said angiotensin II receptor antagonist is selected from the group consisting of: losartan (Cozaar®), candesartan (Atacand®), irbesartan (Avapro®), telmisartan (Micardis®), valsartan (Diovan®) and eprosartan (Teveten®).

11. A method as defined in claim 10, wherein said angiotensin II receptor antagonist is administered in an amount of about 5-20 mg/day.

12. A method as defined in claim 11, wherein said angiotensin II receptor antagonist is losartan, valsartan or candesartan.